

What is claimed is:

1. A sheet processing apparatus comprising:
 - a stapling device that staples a sheet bundle
 - 5 comprising a plurality of sheets;
 - a discharge device that discharges the sheet bundle;
 - a driving device that drives said discharge device;and
 - 10 a controller that controls said driving device; and wherein said controller controls discharge of the sheet bundle in different ways between a case where said stapling device staples the sheet bundle at one point thereof and a case where said stapling device staples
 - 15 the sheet bundle at two points thereof.

2. A sheet processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein:

the sheet bundle stapled at one point thereof is a sheet bundle stapled at one of corners thereof by said
20 stapling device; and

the sheet bundle stapled at two points thereof is a sheet bundle stapled by said stapling device at symmetrical points thereof with respect to a middle part thereof in a direction of sheet width perpendicular to a
25 sheet bundle conveying direction.

3. A sheet processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein:

said controller is operable when the sheet bundle
stapled at one point thereof is to be discharged, for
causing said discharge device to discharge the sheet
bundle while controlling a speed of the sheet bundle to
5 be maintained at a first predetermined speed; and

said controller is operable when discharging the
sheet bundle stapled at two points thereof, for
continuously applying a predetermined voltage to said
driving device to cause said discharge device to convey
10 the sheet bundle until after the sheet bundle has been
conveyed by a predetermined distance, and is operable
after the sheet bundle has been conveyed by the
predetermined distance, for causing said discharge
device to discharge the sheet bundle while controlling
15 the speed of the sheet bundle to be maintained at the
first predetermined speed.

4. A sheet processing apparatus according to
claim 1, wherein:

said controller is operable when the sheet bundle
20 stapled at one point thereof is to be discharged, for
causing said discharge device to accelerate the sheet
bundle at a first predetermined acceleration and then
causing said discharge device to discharge the sheet
bundle while controlling a speed of the sheet bundle to
25 be maintained at the first predetermined speed; and

said controller is operable when the sheet bundle
stapled at two points thereof is to be discharged, for

causing said discharge device to accelerate the sheet
bundle at a second predetermined acceleration greater
than the first predetermined acceleration, and then
causing said discharge device to discharge the sheet
5 bundle while controlling the speed of the sheet bundle
to be maintained at the first predetermined speed.

5. A sheet processing apparatus according to
claim 1, wherein the controller is operable when the
sheet bundle stapled at one point thereof is to be
10 discharged, for causing the discharge device to
discharge the sheet bundle while controlling the speed
of the sheet bundle to be maintained at a first
predetermined speed, and the controller is operable when
the sheet bundle stapled at two points thereof is to be
15 discharged, for causing the discharge device to convey
the sheet bundle while controlling the speed of the
sheet bundle to be maintained at a second predetermined
speed higher than the first predetermined speed until
after the sheet bundle has been conveyed by a
20 predetermined distance, and is operable after the sheet
bundle has been conveyed by the predetermined distance,
for causing said discharge device to discharge the sheet
bundle while controlling the speed of the sheet bundle
to be maintained at the first predetermined speed.

25 6. A sheet processing apparatus comprising:
a stapling device that staples a sheet bundle
comprising a plurality of sheets;

a discharge device that discharges the sheet
bundle;

5 and a driving device that drives said discharge device;
a controller that controls said driving device; and
wherein said controller controls discharge of the
sheet bundle in different ways between a case where said
stapling device staples the sheet bundle and a case
where said stapling device does not staple the sheet
bundle.

7. A sheet processing apparatus according to
claim 6, wherein:

15 said controller is operable when a stapled sheet
bundle is to be discharged, for causing said discharge
device to discharge the sheet bundle while controlling
the speed of the sheet bundle to be maintained at a
first predetermined speed; and

20 said controller is operable when an unstapled sheet
bundle is to be discharged, for continuously applying a
predetermined voltage to said driving device to cause
said discharge device to convey the sheet bundle until
after the sheet bundle has been conveyed by a
predetermined distance, and is operable after the sheet
bundle has been conveyed by the predetermined distance,
for causing said discharge device to discharge the sheet
bundle while controlling the speed of the sheet bundle
to be maintained at the first predetermined speed.

8. A sheet processing apparatus according to
claim 6, wherein:

5 said controller is operable when the stapled sheet
bundle is to be discharged, for causing said discharge
device to accelerate the sheet bundle at a first
predetermined acceleration and then causing said
discharge device to discharge the sheet bundle while
controlling the speed of the sheet bundle to be
maintained at a first predetermined speed; and
10 said controller is operable when an unstapled sheet
bundle is to be discharged, for causing said discharge
device to accelerate the sheet bundle at a second
predetermined acceleration greater than the first
predetermined acceleration, and then causing said
15 discharge device to discharge the sheet bundle while
controlling the speed of the sheet bundle to be
maintained at the first predetermined speed.

9. A sheet processing apparatus according to
claim 6, wherein:

20 said controller is operable when a stapled sheet
bundle is to be discharged, for causing said discharge
device to discharge the sheet bundle while controlling
the speed of the sheet bundle to be maintained at a
first predetermined speed; and
25 said controller is operable when an unstapled sheet
bundle is to be discharged, for causing said discharge
device to convey the sheet bundle while controlling the

speed of the sheet bundle to be maintained at a second predetermined speed higher than the first predetermined speed until after the sheet bundle has been conveyed by a predetermined distance, and is operable after the
5 sheet bundle has been conveyed by the predetermined distance, for causing said discharge device to discharge the sheet bundle while controlling the speed of the sheet bundle to be maintained at the first predetermined speed.